
University of Pennsylvania
Institute for Environmental Studies



presents

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Coral Reefs: Conservation and Study

Abstract: Coral reefs are vital marine ecosystems. Hundreds of marine organisms rely on reefs for food, refuge, and critical habitat for mating/breeding. Coral reefs also play a key role protecting shorelines from erosion as well as fueling a growing tourist industry. Despite their importance, very little regulation exists to protect coral reefs from human-caused pollution, over-fishing, and the indirect effects of global warming. In 1998 alone, 16% of the worlds coral reefs died. At the current rate of impact on coral reefs (direct human impact plus global warming), 30% of the remaining coral reefs are expected to die within the next 10-30 years. Dr. Grottoli studies the physiological link between coral fat reserves and their ability to withstand and survive sub-optimal conditions. By understanding the biological mechanisms associated with coral survival, Grottoli can better identify coral species or coral reefs that are most likely to survive sub-optimal conditions. This is critical for implementing coral reef conservation programs and implementing protected marine areas.

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2002

Time: **12:15 pm - 1:45 pm**

Place: **Auditorium at Wistar Institute**

On Penn's campus: Spruce Street & Penn's 36th Street Walkway

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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IES Seminars are now on THURSDAYS
